What is claimed is:

1. A method for processing a message received from a computational network, comprising:

receiving at least one network message, the network message comprising a header and at least one of a body and an attachment;

parsing the header and the at least one of a body and an attachment to locate predetermined types of information, including at least one intended network message recipient;

assembling the predetermined types of information in at least one notification message, the at least one notification message having a smaller byte size than the at least one network message; and

forwarding the at least one notification message to the at least one intended network message recipient.

2. The method of Claim 1, wherein the at least one network message is received by a server, the at least one intended recipient is associated with a client of the server, and further comprising:

storing the at least one network message in a central message store in the server accessible by a plurality of clients.

3. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

determining a value of a flag in the at least one network message; and

when the state has a predetermined value, resending the notification message after a predetermined time interval has elapsed.

4. The method of Claim 2, further comprising:

at least one of removing the message from the central message store and changing a presentation parameter associated with the at least one network message when the at least one network message is viewed by a client.

5. The method of Claim 1, wherein first and second sets of network messages are associated with a client, the first and second sets of network messages are mutually exclusive, each message in the first and second sets of network messages have a corresponding predetermined expiration time, each message in the first set of network messages have a common first expiration time, each message in the second set of network messages have a common second expiration time, and the first and second expiration times are different.

6. The method of Claim 5, wherein at least some of the expiration times in the first and/or second sets of network messages are set by a source of the at least one network message.

7. The method of Claim 6, wherein the at least some of the expiration times are in the "X" fields of the network messages corresponding to the messages in the first and/or second sets of network messages.

8. The method of Claim 5, further comprising:

comparing the first expiration time of a network message in the first set of network messages with an actual age of the corresponding network message; and

when the expiration time of the network message at least one of equals and exceeds the actual age, removing the corresponding network message from the first set of messages for all recipients for the corresponding network message.

9. The method of Claim 5, further comprising a third set of network messages corresponding to the client, wherein each message in the third set of network messages has no predetermined expiration time associated therewith.

10. The method of Claim 1, wherein in the parsing step the predetermined types of information comprise a type of computational component associated with the at least one intended network message recipient and further comprising:

selecting a presentation parameter for the at least one network message based on the computational component type.

11. The method of Claim 1, wherein in the parsing step the predetermined types of information comprise at least one of terms, groups of terms, semantical relationships, pragmatical relationships, and syntactical relationships.

12. The method of Claim 1, wherein the at least one network message comprises at least one packet.

13. The method of Claim 1, wherein the at least one notification message comprises a source address of the network message, a destination address of the network message, a number of intended recipients of the network message, a subject of the network message, a priority of the network message, a timestamp associated with the network message, and a summary of the body of the network message.

14. The method of Claim 1, further comprising, after the forwarding step, downloading the at least one network message to a client.

15. The method of Claim 1, further comprising;

when a user selects a notification message, retrieving a network address of a nonclient computer associated with the user; and

forwarding the corresponding at least one network message to the nonclient computer.

16. The method of Claim 15, wherein the nonclient computer is at least one of a pager, a PDA, a wireless telephone, a WAP, and an SMS device.

17. A system for processing a message received from a computational network, comprising:

means for receiving at least one network message, the network message comprising a header and at least one of a body and an attachment;

means for parsing the header and the at least one of a body and an attachment to locate predetermined types of information, including at least one intended network message recipient;

means for assembling the predetermined types of information in at least one notification message, the at least one notification message having a smaller byte size than the at least one network message; and

means for forwarding the at least one notification message to the at least one intended network message recipient.

18. The system of Claim 17, wherein the receiving means is a server, the at least one intended recipient is associated with a client of the server, and further comprising:

a central message store in the server for storing the at least one network message, wherein the central message store in the server is accessible by a plurality of clients.

19. The system of Claim 17, further comprising:

means for determining a value of a flag in the at least one network message; and

when the state has a predetermined value, means for resending the notification message after a predetermined time interval has elapsed.

20. The system of Claim 17, wherein first and second sets of network messages are associated with a client, the first and second sets of network messages are mutually exclusive, each message in the first and second sets of network messages have a corresponding predetermined expiration time, each message in the first set of network messages have a common first expiration time, each message in the second set of network messages have a common second expiration time, and the first and second expiration times are different.

21. The system of Claim 20, wherein at least some of the expiration times in the first and/or second sets of network messages are set by a source of the at least one network message.

22. The system of Claim 21, wherein the at least some of the expiration times are in the "X" fields of the network messages corresponding to the messages in the first and/or second sets of network messages.

23. The system of Claim 20, further comprising:

means for comparing the first expiration time of a network message in the first set of network messages with an actual age of the corresponding network message; and

when the expiration time of the network message at least one of equals and exceeds the actual age, means for removing the corresponding network message from the first set of messages for all recipients for the corresponding network message.

24. The system of Claim 20, further comprising a third set of network messages corresponding to the client, wherein each message in the third set of network messages has no predetermined expiration time associated therewith.

25. The system of Claim 17, wherein the predetermined types of information comprise a type of computational component associated with the at least one intended network message recipient and further comprising:

means for selecting a presentation parameter for the at least one network message based on the computational component type.

26. The system of Claim 17, wherein the predetermined types of information comprise at least one of terms, groups of terms, semantical relationships, pragmatical relationships, and syntactical relationships.

27. The system of Claim 17, wherein the at least one notification message comprises a source address of the network message, a destination address of the network message, a number of intended recipients of the network message, a subject of the network message, a priority of the network message, a timestamp associated with the network message, and a summary of the body of the network message.

28. The system of Claim 17, further comprising;

when a user selects a notification message, means for retrieving a network address of a nonclient computer associated with the user; and

second means for forwarding the corresponding at least one network message to the nonclient computer.

29. The system of Claim 28, wherein the nonclient computer is at least one of a pager, a PDA, a wireless telephone, a WAP, and an SMS device.

30. A system for processing a message received from a computational network, comprising:

an input port configured to receive at least one network message to a common set of recipients, the network message comprising a header and at least one of a body and an attachment;

a group assistant configured to parse the header and the at least one of a body and an attachment to locate predetermined types of information, including at least one intended network message recipient; and

a message notification agent configured to assemble the predetermined types of information in at least one notification message, the at least one notification message omitting at least some of the information in the at least one network message, and to forward the at least one notification message to the at least one intended network message recipient.

31. The system of Claim 30, wherein the input port is part of a server, the at least one intended recipient is associated with a client of the server, and further comprising:

a central message store in the server configured to store the at least one network message, wherein the central message store in the server is accessible by a plurality of clients.

32. The system of Claim 30, further comprising:

a message manager configured to determine a value of a flag in the at least one network message and, when the state has a predetermined value, to resend the notification message after a predetermined time interval has elapsed.

33. The system of Claim 30, wherein first and second sets of network messages are associated with a client, the first and second sets of network messages are mutually exclusive, each message in the first and second sets of network messages have a corresponding predetermined expiration time, each message in the first set of network messages have a common first expiration time, each message in the second set of network messages have a common second expiration time, and the first and second expiration times are different.

34. The system of Claim 33, wherein at least some of the expiration times in the first and/or second sets of network messages are set by a source of the at least one network message.

35. The system of Claim 34, wherein the at least some of the expiration times are in the "X" fields of the network messages corresponding to the messages in the first and/or second sets of network messages.

36. The system of Claim 33, wherein the message manager is configured to compare the first expiration time of a network message in the first set of network messages with an actual age of the corresponding network message; and, when the expiration time of the network message at least one of equals and exceeds the actual age, to remove the corresponding network message from the first set of messages for all recipients for the corresponding network message.

37. The system of Claim 33, further comprising a third set of network messages corresponding to the client, wherein each message in the third set of network messages has no predetermined expiration time associated therewith.

38. The system of Claim 30, wherein the predetermined types of information comprise a type of computational component associated with the at least one intended network message recipient and further comprising a message manager configured to select a presentation parameter for the at least one network message based on the computational component type.

39. The system of Claim 30, wherein the predetermined types of information comprise at least one of terms, groups of terms, semantical relationships, pragmatical relationships, and syntactical relationships.

40. The system of Claim 30, wherein the at least one notification message comprises a source address of the network message, a destination address of the network message, a number of intended recipients of the network message, a subject of the network message, a priority of the network message, a timestamp associated with the network message, and a summary of the body of the network message.

41. The system of Claim 30, further comprising;

when a user selects a notification message, the group assistant is configured to retrieve a network address of a nonclient computer associated with the user and forward the corresponding at least one network message to the nonclient computer.

42. The system of Claim 41, wherein the nonclient computer is at least one of a pager, a PDA, a wireless telephone, a WAP, and an SMS device.